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B. Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament, wherein the filament ~~(20; 30; 40; 45)~~ has in cross-section:

[[-]] a central area ~~(11; 46)~~ and

[[-]] two wing areas ~~(12, 13; 47, 48)~~ on opposite sides of said central area and integral with said central area, said wing areas ~~(12, 13; 47, 48)~~ being arranged in a diverging orientation, wherein each wing area is defined by opposed faces ~~(12a, 12b, 13a, 13b; 47a, 47b, 48a, 48b)~~,
~~characterized in that wherein~~

[[-]] at the side of the diverging wing areas the central area ~~(11; 46)~~ forms an outwardly protruding bulb, preferably having a face ~~(11b; 46b)~~ of a curved convex shape, so that said central area ~~(11; 46)~~ forms a protrusion with respect to the adjacent faces ~~(12b, 13b; 47c, 48c)~~ of the wing areas ~~(12, 13; 47, 48)~~, and

[[-]] at the side remote from the diverging wing areas ~~(12, 13; 47, 48)~~ the central area ~~(11; 46)~~ has a face ~~(11a; 46a)~~ which is essentially flush at the location of said central area ~~(11; 46)~~ and merges into the adjacent faces ~~(12a, 13a; 47b, 48b)~~ of each wing area ~~(12, 13; 47, 48)~~.

Claim 2. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to claim 1, wherein the filament, preferably the central area, is fortified by one or more reinforcement fibres ~~(74)~~.

Claim 3. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to claim 1, wherein the central area ~~(11; 46)~~ of the filament has a thickness at least 50%, preferably at least 100%, greater than the thickness of the wing areas ~~(12, 13; 47, 48)~~, at least of a part of each wing area adjoining said central area.

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Claim 4. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to claim 1 ~~one or more of the preceding claims~~, wherein the wing areas have a cross-section differing from one another.

Claim 5. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to claim 1 ~~one or more of the preceding claims~~, wherein the wings areas ~~(12, 13)~~ each have an essentially straight centre line ~~(14, 15)~~.

Claim 6. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament ~~(45)~~ according to claim 1 ~~one or more of the claims 1-4~~, wherein the wing areas ~~(46, 47)~~ each have a curved centre line.

Claim 7. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to claim 1 ~~one or more of the preceding claims~~, wherein the distance between the centre lines of the wing areas ~~(12, 13; 47, 48)~~ is the greatest at the free ends of the wing areas.

Claim 8. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to claim 1 ~~one or more of the preceding claims~~, wherein the centre lines ~~(14, 15)~~ of the wing areas – if said centre lines are essentially straight – or imaginary lines interconnecting a centre point of said central area ~~(46)~~ with a point where each of the centre lines intersects the free end of the wing area ~~(47, 48)~~ – if said centre lines are essentially curved - include an angle of less than 170 degrees.

Claim 9. (Original): An artificial turf filament according to claim 8, wherein said angle is between 90 and 170 degrees, preferably between 100 and 150 degrees, most preferably between 100 and 135 degrees.

Claim 10. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to claim 1 ~~one or more of the preceding claims~~, wherein the wing areas ~~(12, 13)~~ have a thickness measured at right

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angles to the associated centre line (~~14, 15~~), and wherein the wing areas each have a thickness which tapers towards the free end of the wing.

Claim 11. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to claim 1 ~~one or more of the preceding claims~~, wherein the free end of each wing area (~~12, 13; 47, 48~~) has a rounded tip (~~12c, 13c; 47d, 48d~~).

Claim 12. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to claim 11, wherein the rounded tip (~~12c, 13c; 47d, 48d~~) has a radius greater than a part of the wing area (~~12, 13; 47, 48~~) adjoining said rounded tip (~~12c, 13c; 47d, 48d~~).

Claim 13. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to claim 1 ~~one or more of the preceding claims~~, wherein the filament (~~10, 20, 30, 40; 45, 70~~) contains at least one synthetic polymer.

Claim 14. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to claim 13, wherein the filament (~~10, 20, 30, 40; 45, 70~~) contains polyethylene.

Claim 15. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to claim[[s]] 2 ~~and 16~~, wherein the one or more reinforcement fibres are polyamide or PBT (polybutylene therephtalate) fibres embedded in polyethylene or another polymer.

Claim 16. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to claim 1 ~~one or more of the preceding claims~~, wherein the filament contains an organic material.

Claim 17. (Currently amended): An artificial turf including a plurality of artificial turf filaments according to claim 1 ~~one or more of the preceding claims~~.

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Claim 18. (Currently amended): An artificial turf ~~(1)~~ having a substrate and a plurality of artificial turf filaments according to claim 1 ~~one or more of the preceding claims~~ anchored in the substrate and extending there from.

Claim 19. (Original): An artificial turf according to claim 18, wherein said filaments are injected into the substrate, and wherein the substrate is preferably soil.

Claim 20. (Currently amended): An artificial turf according to claim 18, wherein said substrate ~~(4)~~ is a carpet and said filaments are anchored to said carpet.

Claim 21. (Currently amended): An artificial turf according to claim 18, wherein said artificial further includes a backing ~~(3)~~ for said substrate ~~(4)~~, said filaments being anchored to said substrate.

Claim 22. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the cross-section of the filament ~~(20; 30; 40; 45)~~ has a central area ~~(11; 46)~~ and two wing areas ~~(12, 13; 47, 48)~~ on opposite sides of said central area and integral with said central area, said wing areas ~~(12, 13; 47, 48)~~ being arranged in a diverging orientation.

Claim 23. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to claim 22, wherein the filament is fortified by:

[[-]] the central area ~~(11; 46)~~ of the filament having a thickness greater than the thickness of the wing areas ~~(12, 13; 47, 48)~~,

and/or

[[-]] the filament, preferably the central area, containing one or more reinforcement fibres ~~(74)~~.

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Claim 24. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to claim 23, wherein the central area ~~(11; 46)~~ of the filament has a thickness at least 50%, preferably at least 100%, greater than the thickness of the wing areas ~~(12, 13; 47, 48)~~, at least of a part of each wing area adjoining said central area.

Claim 25. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 22[[-24]], wherein the wing areas have a cross-section differing from one another.

Claim 26. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 22[[-25]], wherein the wings areas ~~(12, 13)~~ each have an essentially straight centre line ~~(14, 15)~~.

Claim 27. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament ~~(45)~~ according to ~~one or more of the~~ claim[[s]] 22[[-25]], wherein the wing areas ~~(46, 47)~~ each have a curved centre line.

Claim 28. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 22[[-27]], wherein said filament ~~(45)~~ has opposed faces, said central area ~~(46)~~ forming a protrusion in one of said faces with respect to the adjoining parts of said face defining the wing areas, the other face being essentially flush at the location of said central area ~~(46)~~.

Claim 29. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 22[[-28]], wherein the distance between the centre lines of the wing areas ~~(12, 13; 47, 48)~~ is the greatest at the free ends of the wing areas.

Claim 30. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 22[[-29]], wherein the centre lines ~~(14, 15)~~ of the wing areas – if said

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centre lines are essentially straight – or imaginary lines interconnecting a centre point of said central area (46) with a point where each of the centre lines intersects the free end of the wing area (47, 48) – if said centre lines are essentially curved - include an angle of less than 170 degrees.

Claim 31. (Original): An artificial turf filament according to claim 30, wherein said angle is between 90 and 170 degrees, preferably between 100 and 150 degrees, most preferably between 100 and 135 degrees.

Claim 32. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 22[[-31]], wherein the wing areas (12, 13) have a thickness measured at right angles to the associated centre line (14, 15), and wherein the wing areas each have a thickness which tapers towards the free end of the wing.

Claim 33. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 22[[-32]], wherein the free end of each wing area (12, 13; 47, 48) has a rounded tip (12e, 13e; 47d, 48d).

Claim 34. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to claim 33, wherein the rounded tip (12e, 13e; 47d, 48d) has a radius greater than a part of the wing area (12, 13; 47, 48) adjoining said rounded tip (12e, 13e; 47d, 48d).

Claim 35. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 22[[-34]], wherein each wing area (12, 13) has opposed faces (12a, 12b, 13a, 13b) tapering towards the free end of the wing area.

Claim 36. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 22[[-35]], wherein the central area (11) has – in the direction of a

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bisector of both centre lines of the wings – a dimension (T) greater than the thickness of the wing areas.

Claim 37. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 22[[-36]], wherein the filament (~~10, 20, 30, 40, 45, 70~~) contains at least one synthetic polymer.

Claim 38. (Original): An artificial turf filament according to claim 37, wherein the one or more polymers are selected from the group consisting of polyamides, polyesters, polyethylene, polypropylene, nylon and combinations thereof.

Claim 39. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to claim[[s]] 23 ~~and~~ [[37]], wherein the one or more reinforcement fibres are polyamide or PBT (polybutylene terephthalate) fibres embedded in polyethylene or another polymer.

Claim 40. (Currently amended): An artificial turf filament according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 22[[-39]], wherein the filament contains an organic material.

Claim 41. (Canceled)

Claim 42. (Currently amended): An artificial turf including a plurality of artificial turf filaments according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 22[[-41]].

Claim 43. (Currently amended): An artificial turf (~~1~~) having a substrate and a plurality of artificial turf filaments according to ~~any of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 22[[-42]] anchored in the substrate and extending there from.

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Claim 44. (Original): An artificial turf according to claim 43, wherein said filaments are injected into the substrate, and wherein the substrate is preferably soil.

Claim 45. (Currently amended): An artificial turf according to claim 43, wherein said substrate (4) is a carpet and said filaments are anchored to said carpet.

Claim 46. (Currently amended): An artificial turf according to claim 43, wherein said artificial further includes a backing (3) for said substrate (4), said filaments being anchored to said substrate.

Claim 47. (Currently amended): Bundle of a plurality of artificial turf filaments, wherein ~~characterized in that the~~ artificial turf filaments (50) are held together by one or more wrapping filaments (60a, 60b) wrapped around said artificial turf filaments (50).

Claim 48. (Currently amended): Bundle according to claim 47, wherein multiple wrapping filaments (60a, 60b) are wrapped around said artificial turf filaments.

Claim 49. (Currently amended): Bundle according to claim 47 ~~or~~ [[48]], wherein said one or more wrapping filaments are wrapped around said bundle in a helical path, preferably – if multiple wrapping filaments are present – in opposite directions.

Claim 50. (Currently amended): Bundle according to claim 48 ~~or~~ [[49]], wherein the wrapping filaments (60a, 60b) cross each other at cross points (61), and are bonded, preferably releasable bonded, to one another at said cross points.

Claim 51. (Currently amended): Bundle according to ~~any of~~ claim[[s]] 47[[-50]], wherein said one or more wrapping filaments (60a, 60b) are bonded, preferably releasable bonded, to said artificial turf filaments (50).

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Claim 52. (Currently amended): Bundle according to claim 51, wherein said one or more wrapping filaments ~~(60a, 60b)~~ are synthetic polymer filaments and are bonded to each other and/or to the artificial turf filaments ~~(50)~~ by a thermal bonding process.

Claim 53. (Currently amended): Bundle according to ~~any of~~ claim[[s]] 47[[-52]], wherein said one or more wrapping filaments ~~(60a, 60b)~~ are releasable bonded so that upon mechanical action, by normal use of a artificial turf containing said bundles and/or by a brushing process applied to said turf, the bonds are released.

Claim 54. (Currently amended): Bundle according to ~~any of~~ claim[[s]] 47[[-53]], wherein said one or more wrapping filaments ~~(60a, 60b)~~ have a thickness which is less than the thickness of the artificial turf filaments ~~(50)~~.

Claim 55. (Currently amended): Method of manufacturing a bundle of a plurality of artificial turf filaments, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ said multiple artificial turf filaments ~~(50)~~ are held next to one another while one or more wrapping filaments ~~(60a, 60b)~~ are wrapped around said artificial turf filaments.

Claim 56. (Currently amended): Method according to claim 55, wherein multiple wrapping filaments ~~(60a, 60b)~~ are wrapped around the artificial turf filaments ~~(50)~~, preferably in opposite helical paths such that said wrapping filaments cross each other at cross points ~~(61)~~.

Claim 57. (Currently amended): Method according to claim 55 ~~or~~ [[56]], wherein the one or more wrapping filaments ~~(60a, 60b)~~ are bonded, preferably releasable bonded, to said artificial turf filaments ~~(50)~~.

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Claim 58. (Currently amended): Method according to claim 57, wherein said one or more wrapping filaments ~~(60a, 60b)~~ are synthetic polymer filaments and are bonded to each other and/or to the artificial turf filaments ~~(50)~~ by a thermal bonding process.

Claim 59. (Currently amended): Method according to claim 58, wherein said one or more wrapping filaments ~~(60a, 60b)~~ are heat treated before wrapping around said artificial turf filaments ~~(50)~~, so that the surface of the wrapping filament melts and the melted surface is brought against the artificial turf filaments as the one or more wrapping filaments are wrapped around said artificial turf filaments.

Claim 60. (Currently amended): Method according to claim 59, wherein the artificial turf filaments ~~(50)~~ and the one or more wrapping filaments ~~(60a, 60b)~~ are subjected to a common heat treatment, the one or more wrapping filaments having a smaller thickness and thus being heated to a higher temperature, so that the surface of the one or more wrapping filaments melts.

Claim 61. (Currently amended): Artificial turf comprising a substrate ~~(4)~~ and a plurality of bundled artificial turf filaments ~~(50, 60a, 60b)~~ according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 47[[-54]] extending from said substrate.

Claim 62. (Currently amended): Artificial turf comprising a substrate ~~(4)~~ and a plurality of bundled artificial turf filaments ~~(50, 60a, 60b)~~ according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 47[[-54]] extending from said substrate, wherein said wrapping filaments release from said bundles as a result of normal use of said turf, e.g. by playing soccer, and/or as a result a wrapping filament release treatment applied to said turf after installation of said turf.

Claim 63. (Currently amended): Method of preparation of an artificial turf according to ~~any of the claim[[s]] 61 or [[62]]~~, wherein said turf ~~(4)~~ is subjected to a wrapping filaments release treatment effecting the release of the wrapping filaments from the artificial turf filaments.

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Claim 64. (Currently amended): Method of preparation of an artificial turf according to ~~any of the claim~~[[s]] 61[[-63]], wherein - prior to effecting the release of the wrapping filaments – a filling material is deposited between the bundles of artificial turf filaments.

Claim 65. (Currently amended): Method according to claim 64[[5]], wherein said filling material includes rubber particles.

Claim 66. (Currently amended): Method of production of an artificial turf wherein a plurality of artificial turf filaments (~~50, 60a, 60b~~) are produced and subsequently bundled by one or more wrapping filaments according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 47[[-54]], and wherein the wrapped bundle of filaments is subsequently supplied to a tufting machine which produces the artificial turf containing the filaments.